

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 171

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mike Barnett of Martin.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mike Barnett; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Barnett was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Martin on December 6, 1951, to Modene Puckett Barnett and Charles "Shorty" Barnett, Mike Barnett graduated from Martin High School in 1969 and attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, from which he earned a degree in history; and

WHEREAS, after Mr. Barnett, who originally intended to become a teacher, finished his student teaching in Humboldt, he decided instead to continue working at his family's business, Puckett Lumber Company; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the entrepreneurial spirit which his family embodied, Mr. Barnett and his wife, Cathy Hobbs Barnett, served with acumen and alacrity as the owners of a bed and breakfast called Our Backyard Town B&B, where Mr. Barnett proudly showcased his collection of antiques, which covered four acres of land and included twenty-seven antique cars; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man also served as a proud and valorous member of the United States National Guard, from which he retired after twenty-one years of service; and

WHEREAS, an enthusiastic hobbyist, Mr. Barnett served on three separate occasions as the president of the West Tennessee Antique Car Club; he was a judge at the Soybean Festival Car Show, where he and his wife also annually hosted The Peace Makers, a police singing group from Memphis; and, during the twelfth annual festival, he was awarded a certificate of appreciation for contributing as an event sponsor to The Heroes Breakfast, which served breakfast to police and firemen at their homes; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of his community, he was a graduate of The Citizens Police Academy in Martin, served as downtown Martin's Santa Claus during the holiday season, volunteered for We Care Ministries, and served on the We Care Board; and

WHEREAS, he was a devout member of First United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Barnett was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his three children, Clint Riley, Kristy Vincent, and Alicia Webb, and his three grandchildren, Kizer Riley, Jason Hicks, and Baylor Webb; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Barnett leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mike Barnett, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Barnett.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.